

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

1. (currently amended) A power supply control method in a system in which a power supply control device is provided for each of a plurality of information processing devices connected to a network, comprising:

a representative information processing device of the plurality of information processing devices normally issuing, according to a predetermined power-up/down schedule of said representative information processing device and other information processing devices, a power-up instruction to each power supply control device of the other information processing devices upon each activation;

instructing each of the other information processing devices to perform a power-down process, notifying each of the other information processing devices of a next power-up date and time, and having each power supply control device enter a next power-up date and time each time a power-down date and time comes; and

each power supply control device of said other information processing devices performing a power-up process ~~when~~if the entered power-up date and time comes and the representative information processing device abnormally issues no power-up instruction to each power supply control device of the other information processing devices.

2. (currently amended) A power supply control method in a system in which a power supply control device is provided for each of a plurality of information processing devices connected to a network, comprising:

a representative information processing device of the plurality of information processing devices normally issuing, according to a predetermined power-up/down schedule of said representative information processing device and other information processing devices, a power-up instruction to each power supply control device of the other information processing devices upon each activation;

notifying each power supply control device of the other information processing devices of

a next power-up date and time, having each power supply control device enter the next power-up date and time, and issuing a power-down instruction to each of the other information processing devices each time a power-down date and time comes; and

each power supply control device of said other information processing devices performing a power-up process when-if the entered power-up date and time comes and the representative information processing device abnormally issues no power-up instruction to each power supply control device of the other information processing devices.

3. (previously presented) The power supply control method according to claim 1, wherein said power-up date and time given to each of said power supply control devices of said other information processing devices is obtained by any of said information processing devices or each of said other information processing devices automatically adding an arbitrary margin to a power-up date and time in said predetermined power-up/down schedule.

4. (previously presented) The power supply control method according to claim 2, wherein said power-up date and time given to each of said power supply control devices of said other information processing devices is obtained by any of said information processing devices or each of said other information processing devices automatically adding an arbitrary margin to a power-up date and time in said predetermined power-up/down schedule.

5. (currently amended) A power supply control method in a system in which a power supply control device is provided for each of a plurality of information processing devices connected to a network, comprising:

a representative information processing device of the plurality of information processing devices normally issuing, according to a predetermined power-up/down schedule of said representative information processing device and other information processing devices, a power-up instruction to each power supply control device of the other information processing devices upon each activation;

instructing each of the other information processing devices to perform a power-down process, notifying each of the other information processing devices of a next power-up date and time, and having each power supply control device enter a next power-up date and time each time a power-down date and time comes; and

each power supply control device of said other information processing devices performing a power-up process when-if the entered power-up date and time comes and the

representative information processing device abnormally issues no power-up instruction to each power supply control device of the other information processing devices;

wherein said representative information processing device does not give the power-down instruction and the next power-up date and time before a power-down permission condition entered in advance of a current and other information processing devices is satisfied although the power-down date and time comes.

6. (currently amended) A power supply control method in a system in which a power supply control device is provided for each of a plurality of information processing devices connected to a network, comprising:

a representative information processing device of the plurality of information processing devices normally issuing, according to a predetermined power-up/down schedule of said representative information processing device and other information processing devices, a power-up instruction to each power supply control device of the other information processing devices upon each activation;

notifying each power supply control device of the other information processing devices of a next power-up date and time, having each power supply control device enter the next power-up date and time, and issuing a power-down instruction to each of the other information processing devices each time a power-down date and time comes; and

each power supply control device of said other information processing devices performing a power-up process ~~when~~if the entered power-up date and time comes and the representative information processing device abnormally issues no power-up instruction to each power supply control device of the other information processing devices;

wherein said representative information processing device does not give the power-down instruction and the next power-up date and time before a power-down permission condition entered in advance of a current and other information processing devices is satisfied although the power-down date and time comes.

7. (original) The power supply control method according to claim 1, wherein said power-up instruction or power-down instruction is sequentially issued at predetermined startup intervals or power-down intervals.

8. (original) The power supply control method according to claim 2, wherein said power-up instruction or power-down instruction is sequentially issued at predetermined startup

intervals or power-down intervals.

9. (currently amended) An information processing apparatus which is a representative information processing device in a plurality of information processing devices in a computer system in which a power supply control device is provided for each of the plurality of information processing devices connected to a network, comprising:

a power-up/down schedule storage unit storing predetermined power-up/down schedules of said representative information processing device and other information processing devices;

a power-up instruction unit normally instructing each power supply control device of other information processing devices to perform a power-up process at each activation process; and

a power-down instruction unit instructing each power supply control device to perform a power-down process and notifying each power supply control device of a next power-up date and time each time power-down date and time comes according to said predetermined power-up/down schedule;

wherein each power supply control device performs a power-up process if the power-up date and time comes and the power-up instruction unit abnormally issues no power-up instruction to each power supply control device of the other information processing devices.

10. (original) The information processing device according to claim 9, wherein said next power-up date and time given to each power supply control device is obtained by any of said information processing devices or each of said information processing devices adding an arbitrary margin to a power-up date and time in a power-up/down schedule stored in said power-up/down schedule storage unit.

11. (currently amended) An information processing device which is a representative information processing device in a plurality of information processing devices in a computer system in which a power supply control device is provided for each of the plurality of information processing devices connected to a network, comprising:

a power-up/down schedule storage unit storing predetermined power-up/down schedules of said representative information processing device and other information processing devices;

a power-up instruction unit normally instructing each power supply control device of other information processing devices to perform a power-up process at each activation process;

a power-down instruction unit instructing each power supply control device to perform a power-down process and notifying each power supply control device of a next power-up date

and time each time power-down date and time comes according to said predetermined power-up/down schedule;

a power-down permission condition storage unit for storing a power-down permission condition of a predetermined current and other information processing devices; and

does not give the power-down instruction and the next power-up date and time before a power-down permission condition is satisfied although the power-down date and time comes;

wherein each power supply control device performs a power-up process if the power-up date and time comes and the power-up instruction unit abnormally issues no power-up instruction to each power supply control device of the other information processing devices.

12. (original) The information processing device according to claim 9, wherein said power-up instruction or power-down instruction is sequentially issued at predetermined startup intervals or power-down intervals.

13. (currently amended) A power supply control device in a computer system in which a power supply control device is provided for each of a plurality of information processing devices connected to a network, comprising:

a power-down unit storing a next power-up date and time when the next power-up date and time is received together with a power-down instruction, and performing a power-down process on an information processing device of a current system; and

a power-up unit performing a power-up process on the current information processing device when-if said stored power-up date and time comes and abnormally no power-up instruction is received.

14. (currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing a program used to direct a computer to realize the functions of:

instructing each power supply control device of other information processing devices to perform a power-up process at each activation process; and

instructing each power supply control device to perform a power-down process and notifying each power supply control device of a next power-up date and time each time power-down date and time comes according to a predetermined power-up/down schedule; and

performing a power-up process if the power-up date and time comes and abnormally no power-up instruction is received.

15. (currently amended) A method of directing a computer comprising:
receiving a computer program stored in a computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave;
instructing each power supply control device of other information processing devices to perform a power-up process at each activation process with the computer program; and
instructing each power supply control device to perform a power-down process and notifying each power supply control device of a next power-up date and time each time power-down date and time comes according to a predetermined power-up/down schedule; and performing a power-up process if the power-up date and time comes and abnormally no power-up instruction is received.

16. (currently amended) A power supply control method for a plurality of information processing devices, comprising:

~~issuing powering up, by one of said information processing devices, a power-up instruction to each of the other information processing devices~~ by issuing a power-up instruction to each of the other information processing devices upon each activation;

notifying, by said one of said information processing devices, each of the other information processing devices of a next power-up date and time;

entering said next power-up date and time in each of the other information processing devices;

instructing, by said one of said information processing devices, each of the other information processing devices to perform a power-down process; and

performing a power-up process of each the other information processing devices ~~when if~~ the next power-up date and time comes if and said one of said information processing devices fails to provide no a further power-up instruction ~~has been received from said one of said information processing devices.~~

17. (cancelled)